



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



OCTOBER 4, 2002

Hot News!

McCollum Opposes Iraq Resolution

The House International Relations Committee voted on Thursday to approve HJ Res 114, which authorizes the use of the U.S. Armed Forces against Iraq. The full House is expected to act on this resolution next week. Rep. McCollum offered this statement on the resolution passed out of committee.

"Over the past several weeks, I have met with my constituents about military action in Iraq, and I have discussed the issue with my Republican and Democrat colleagues on the House Armed Services Committee, the House Intelligence Committee and the House International Relations Committee. I continue to believe that Saddam Hussein is a malicious dictator who poses a real threat to regional and global security. At this time, however, I do not believe the threat Saddam poses is an immediate one, and I do not believe it warrants the abandonment of diplomatic negotiations or a withdrawal from the pursuit of a peaceful resolution in favor of a first strike. As a result, I do not support the current resolution being considered by the International Relations Committee today."

McCollum Secures Transportation Funding

Rep. McCollum has secured much-needed funding in the fiscal year 2003 House Transportation Appropriation bill for the Phalen Boulevard Project in St. Paul.

"I am pleased the House Transportation Appropriation Committee has continued to recognize the benefit of this project for the City of St. Paul and the Fourth District of Minnesota," said McCollum. "This \$500,000 appropriation will play a key role in advancing the needs of local businesses and families in the Phalen Boulevard area, and builds on the successful federal funding we secured last year."

The Phalen Boulevard project is a 2.1-mile, four-lane roadway connecting an inner city neighborhood and industrial area indirectly to I-35 E just north of both downtown St. Paul and the junction of I-35 E and I-94. This funding will help cover a significant portion of the construction costs for the project. McCollum also secured \$1.75 million for the project in fiscal year 2002.

Betty's Key Votes This Week

Voted "Yes" on HRes 559— Expressing the sense of the House that each state should examine its procedures governing special elections. McCollum is a cosponsor of this resolution, which passed the House by a vote of 414-0.

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Voted "Yes" on HR 4125— Federal Courts Improvement Act of 2002. The bill passed the House by a vote of 370-21.

"Pic" of the Week



A cameraman films the National Organization for Women's (NOW) recent protest in front of the Nigerian Embassy in Washington, DC. The demonstrators were voicing their opposition to the brutal practice of stoning, which is being implemented against a young mother in Nigeria. Rep. McCollum has introduced a congressional resolution condemning this practice. The resolution, which has bipartisan support, is expected to reach the House floor for a vote.

In Betty's Words

"Patsy Mink was a pioneer—she opened so many doors for a generation of women and for our daughters. She was the driving force behind Title IX, which mandated gender equality in education. Patsy Mink was a tireless advocate for people who thought they had no voice. As the first Asian woman elected to Congress, she displayed unparalleled determination in fighting for human rights, civil rights and the rights of minority groups everywhere. Her legacy of equality and integrity will live on not only in the halls of Congress, but on the playing fields and in the classrooms across this nation."

—Statement regarding the recent passing of Hawaii Congresswoman Patsy Mink; September 30, 2002

For Your Information

A two-year environmental project undertaken by a group of St. Paul students has recently been completed. The then sixth graders from Farnsworth Elementary undertook the challenge of bringing awareness to the restoration of the Ames Lake Wetland. Just a few weeks ago, the project was unveiled. The site features interpretive displays highlighting the history of Ames Lake and the value that Wetlands has to the community.

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Prepared at government expense.